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*Readings on the Relation of Government to Property and Industry.* By SAMUEL P. ORTH. Boston: Ginn & Co., 1915. 8vo, pp. viii+664.

A number of very excellent readings have been carefully edited and put into convenient form. The introductory readings deal with the general theory of so much of the social control of commerce and industry as has taken the form of law. Then follow readings upon some of the current problems in the legal control of business. These include governmental control of the ordinary business corporations as well as of public-service corporations, and the legal aspects of labor problems. The book closes with a collection of readings discussing the tendency toward, and the problems in, federal control of business. Most of the readings "have been taken from a source hitherto almost entirely neglected by the lay student, the law journals, repositories of much careful research and concise thinking on this subject." It is believed that the book does a real service in again calling the attention of political scientists and political economists to this literature, as would a book which brought home to the lawyers the results of the current thought of the political scientists and economists upon these problems.

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*Our Chief Magistrate and His Power.* By WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT. New York: Columbia University Press, 1916. 8vo, pp. vii+165.  
\$1.50

In the six chapters of this small book, originally delivered as a series of lectures at Columbia University, Mr. Taft gives an interpretation of the powers, duties, responsibilities, and limitations of the presidency as they appear to one with both outside and inside knowledge of the question. He explains some of the customs that have grown up around the office by referring to American constitutional history. By relating incidents connected with life at the capital and by making comparisons of our system of government with that of England, he points out defects and difficulties and suggests cures. In this connection he suggests that the term of office might better be a somewhat longer, single term; that the executive should be in closer touch with Congress in the initiation of legislation; that patronage should be limited; and that the adoption of a budget system is highly desirable. A delightful humor, which now and then breaks out into an almost audible Taft chuckle, makes the book very easy and pleasant reading.